

Application No. 10/505,345
Amendment dated October 16, 2006
Reply to Office action dated July 20, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Test piece, comprising at least two shaped probe elements and at least one connecting element for connecting the at least two shaped probe elements, wherein each connecting element is provided with at least one fastening element at one end of the connecting element for fastening a shaped probe element,

characterised in that

length variations of at least one of

the at least two shaped probe elements, and ~~and/or~~ of

the at least one connecting element

are compensated by the fastening elements in such a way that the distance between respective two sensing points under standard measuring conditions is essentially constant.

2. (currently amended) Test piece according to claim 1, in which each fastening element comprises a material with a positive or negative thermal length expansion coefficient and at least one of the form ~~and/or~~ and the dimensioning of each fastening element is chosen such that length variations of at least one of each shaped probe element, and ~~and/or~~ of

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each connecting element
is are compensated under standard measuring conditions.

3. (currently amended) Test piece according to claim 1, in which each fastening element comprises a first sectional element of a first material and a second sectional element of a second material, wherein the fastening element is arranged at the connecting element and at least one of the form and/or and the dimensioning of both sectional elements is chosen in such a way that length variations of at least one of
each shaped probe element, and and/or of
each connecting element
are compensated under standard measuring conditions.
4. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 3, in which the first sectional element is designed as a hollow body.
5. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 1, in which the connecting elements are designed rod-shaped.
6. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 1, in which the shaped probe elements are designed ball-shaped.
7. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 1, in which the shaped probe elements and the fastening elements are detachable connectable to one another.
8. (original) Test piece according to claim 7, in which the detachable connection is realised by magnetic forces.
9. (original) Test piece according to claim 8, in which the fastening elements comprise magnets for the formation of the magnetic connection.

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10. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 1, in which at least one shaped probe element is connected with at least two connecting elements.
11. (original) Test piece according to claim 10, in which the connecting elements form the edges and the shaped probe elements form the corners of a tetrahedron.
12. (currently amended) Test piece according to claim 2, in which each fastening element comprises a first sectional element of a first material and a second sectional element of a second material, wherein the fastening element is arranged at the connecting element and at least one of the form and/or and the dimensioning of both sectional elements is chosen in such a way that length variations of at least one of
each shaped probe element, and and/or of
each connecting element
are compensated under standard measuring conditions.
13. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 12, in which the first sectional element is designed as a hollow body.
14. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 2, in which the connecting elements are designed rod-shaped.
15. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 2, in which the shaped probe elements are designed ball-shaped.
16. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 2, in which at least one shaped probe element is connected with at least two connecting elements.

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17. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 3, in which the connecting elements are designed rod-shaped.
18. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 3, in which the shaped probe elements are designed ball-shaped.
19. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 3, in which at least one shaped probe element is connected with at least two connecting elements.
20. (previously presented) Test piece according to claim 4, in which at least one shaped probe element is connected with at least two connecting elements.